

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 OES-06 NRC-07 AID-05 CEA-01
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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3659
INFO ERDA WASHINGTON
ERDA GERMANTOWN
ALL EC CAPITALS
USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 04354

STATE PASS TO U.S.NRC FOR J.D.LAFLEUR

E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS:TECH,EC,ENRG,PARM
SUBJECT: COMMUNITY NUCLEAR SAFETY CODE AND COMMISSIONER BRUNNER'S
COMMENTS ON IT AND NUCLEAR ENERGY

1. THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE YESTERDAY APPROVED A
COMMISSION STUDY ON " COMMUNITY NUCLEAR SAFETY CODE." THE
STUDY,WHICH PROVIDES THE BASIS FOR AN EVENTUAL CODE,TOOK
14 MONTHS TO PREPARE AND CALLS FOR THE REAL AND EFFECTOVE
CODING OF SAFETY REGULATIONS THROUGHOUT THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITY,AND WILL BE APPLICABLE IN ALL TYPES OF NUCLEAR
PLANTS,INCLUDING MILITARY FACILITIES.THE CODE IS TO
ATTEMPT TO SET OUT MANDATORY MINIMUM RULES WHICH WILL BE
BINDING IN EACH MEMBER STATE AND WOULD REQUIRE A SUBSTANTIAL
EXTENSION OF THE PRESENT COMMISSION POWER.THE AIM OF SUCH
A CODE WOULD BE TO EFFECTIVELY COORDINATE THE SAFETY
MEASURES TAKEN BY MEMBER STATES IN VARIOUS STAGES
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OF THE NUCLEAR CYCLE.AT THE PRESENT TIME,THE FINAL
VERISIO OF HE STUDY CONDUCTED BY MRBONETY IS NOT
AVAILABLE BUT WILLBE AVAILABLE SOMETIME NEXT WEEK.
IT WILL BE POUCHED TO THE DEPARTMENT,ERDA,NRC,AND
ANY OTHER INTERESTED ADDRESSEES WHO REQUEST IT.

2.THE CODES THEMSELVES ARE TO REPLY TO SUCH AREAS AS RADIOLOGICAL

PROTECTION STANDARDS,HARMONIZATION OF INDIVIDUAL DOSE MONITORING,EXPLORATIONOF DIRECT NUCLEAR SAFETY RESEARCH PROJECT AT THE JOINT RESEARCH CENTER,INDIRECT RESEARCH PROJECTS IN THE FIELDS OF BIOLOGY AND HEALTH PROTECTION, RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT AND STORAGE,PLUTONIUM RECYCLING IN LWR'S,STANDARES OF ACCIDENT ANLYSIS FOR REACTOR PLANTS AS WELL AS REPROCESSING FACILITIES.TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE,THE CODES ARE TO RELY UPON AVAILABLE INFORMATION FROM ICRP (INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR RADIATION PROTECTION)AND ON-GOING STUDIES AT THE IAEA.

3.MR.BRUNNER,COMMISSONER FOR ENERGY AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT,ADDRESSED THE FINAL SESSION OF HE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE ON THE OMMUNITY NUCLEAR SAFETY CODE.MR.BRUNNER SUPPORTED THE ADOPTION OF THE CODE AS WELL AS AN OPEN DEBATE ON THE ENTIRE NUCLEAR ISSUE WITH THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATING. HE STRESSED THAT IN THE NUCLEAR ENERGY SPHERE,EFFORTS CONCERNING SAFETY MUST BE STEPPED UPBUT IT SHOULD NOT BE FORGOTTEN EITHER THAT THE PLURIANNUAL RESEARCH PROGRAM APPROVED AD REFERENDUM ON MARCH 29 BY THE COUNCIL INCLUDES AN APPROPRIATION OF DOLS 94.27 MILLION FOR SAFETY RESEARCH FOR REACTORS DOLS 47.96 MILLION FOR RESEARCH ONPLUTONIUM AND DOLS 25.74 MILLION FOR RESERCH CONCERNED WITH RADIOACTIVE WASTE.MR.BRUNNER CAME OUT AGAINST A MORATORIUM ON NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT UNTUL THE LAST PROBLEMS OF SAFETY AND THE ENVIRONMENT HAD BEEN SATISFACTORILY SOLVED. THE MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE SHARED THIS VIEW WITH THE COMMISSIONER.HE UNCLASSIFIED

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ALSO NOTED THAT THE NUCLEAR OPTION INVOLVES A CHOICE WHICH MUST BE MADE IN FULL POSSESSION OF ALL THE FACTS. HE DOWNPLAYED THE RISK OF PROLIFERATION SINCE,HE SAID, IT ALREADY EXISTS AND HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY DEALT WITH IN EUROPE. HE SAID THIS SHOULD NOT DISCOURAGE THE PEACEFUL USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY,SINCE THE ONLY REAL ALTERNATIVE FORM ,OIL,IS SOMETHING WHICH THE COMMUNITY HAS VERY LITTLE OF.ACCORDING TO THE MOST OPTIMISTIC ESTIMATES,NORTH SEA OIL WILL JUST ABOUT COVER 10 PERCENT OF THE COMMUNITY'S ENERGY NEEDS. HINTON

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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